

Administration of Barack H. Obama, 2009

**Statement on Preliminary Assessments From Reviews Ordered on the
Christmas Day Terrorist Attack**

December 31, 2009

This morning I spoke with John Brennan about preliminary assessments from the ongoing consultations I have ordered into the human and systemic failures that occurred leading up to the attempted act of terrorism on Christmas Day and about our Government-wide efforts at continued vigilance on homeland security and counterterrorism efforts. In a separate call, I spoke with Sec. Napolitano to receive an update on both the Department of Homeland Security review of detection capabilities and the enhanced security measures in place since the Christmas Day incident.

I anticipate receiving assessments from several agencies this evening and will review those tonight and over the course of the weekend. On Tuesday, in Washington, I will meet personally with relevant agency heads to discuss our ongoing reviews as well as security enhancements and intelligence-sharing improvements in our homeland security and counterterrorism operations.

Categories: Statements by the President : Christmas Day terrorist attack, preliminary assessments from reviews ordered.

Names: Brennan, John O.; Napolitano, Janet A.

Subjects: Aviation : Airport security detection capabilities, review; Homeland Security, Department of : Secretary; Terrorism : Counterterrorism efforts; Terrorism : December 25 explosive device incident on Northwest Airlines Flight 253; Terrorism : Terrorist watch lists, procedural review; White House Office : Assistants to the President :: Homeland Security and Counterterrorism .

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